

Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, November 1, 2006

MEDIA CONTACT: Arian Collins

619-236-5848

New Information on Library Web Site Can Assist New Immigrants Become Permanent Citizens Information on the Web is Part of Library's "Changing Faces of San Diego" Program

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library now offers easy access to information for new American immigrants to help them adjust to U.S. culture and achieve permanent citizenship. The Library web site now includes pages with information about Library services and links to other web sites that can provide immigrants assistance.

San Diego serves a very diverse population of adults and their children from countries and cultures outside the United States. This page was created in an effort to assist in understanding and accessing resources that can help them adjust to U.S. culture and achieve permanent citizenship.

The new web pages are part of the Library's new *Changing Faces of San Diego* outreach program. The pages can be accessed directly by logging onto www.sandiegolibrary.org/services/newamericans.shtml.

Earlier this year, the Library received a grant from the federal Library Services and Technology Act for the *Changing Faces of San Diego* program that will assist refugees and new immigrants connect to the larger pluralistic society and to the resources that will help them acculturate in their new environment.

Partners in the program include the International Rescue Committee, New Americans Immigration Museum and Learning Center, and the MO'OLELO Performing Arts Co.

Changing Faces of San Diego will target port-of-entry immigrants/refugees who are negotiating immersion in a new environment while striving to retain a sense of cultural heritage and identity, as well as the immigrant population that has resided in San Diego for a longer period of time. It is the Library's intent to demonstrate to refugees/immigrants how to connect to the larger pluralistic society and to the resources that will help them acculturate in their new environment.

###

The City of San Diego Public Library – Your Link to the Past and Gateway to the Future www.sandiegolibrary.org